മിസ്റ്റർ പി. നാരായണമേനോൻ: ഒരിക്കലല്ലെ പിഴയിട്ടിട്ടുള്ളൂ?

മിസ്റ്റർ ബി. വി. കെ. മേനോൻ: അതിനശേഷം ഇതുവരെ അങ്ങിനെ ഉണ്ടായിട്ടില്ല.

ANCHAL CARDS—AVAILABILITY OF

241. Mr. P. Narayana Menon *(Trippunittura)*: Will Government be pleased to answer.—

(*a*) are the Government aware that in most of the Anchal Offices, Anchal cards are not available;

(*b*) what action has been taken by the Government in the matter?

Mr. B. V. K. Menn *(Joint Secretary to Government)*:

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) All available stocks have been distributed to the Anchal Offices and steps are taken to replenish stocks.

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri)*: In view of the election, may I know whether the Government will be prepared to make Anchal cards available in large quantities

Mr. B. V. K. Menon *(Joint Secretary to Government)*: As far as possible.

TODDY SHOP—PANANGAD—LOCATION OF

242. Mr. P. Narayana Menn *(Trippunittura)*: Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) where the toddy shop No. 37 in Panangad in Kumbalam Village is located;

(*b*) how far is it from local temple;

(*c*) did the Government get any petition from the Public for the shifting of the shop;

(*d*) what action did the Government take on that petition?

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government)*:

(*a*) The shop is located in Panangad Desom.

(*b*) As there are more than one temple in the locality, the question is not clear.

(*c*) No petition has been received from the General Public for shifting the shop.

(*d*) Does not arise in view of answer to (*c*).

മിസ്റ്റർ പി. നാരായണമേനോൻ: ഈ ഷാപ്പ് ഇപ്പോൾ അവിടെനിന്നുമാറ്റിട്ടുണ്ടോ?

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government)*: Yes.

HILL PALACE ROAD—TODDY SHOPS

243. Mr. P. Narayana Menon *(Trippunittura)*: Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) the number of toddy shops now existing by the side of the Hill Palace Road;

(*b*) the distance of each of them from the road;

(*c*) the distance of the old site of shop No. 43 from the Hill Palace Road?

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government)*:

(*a*) One shop.

(*b*) 168 yards.

(*c*) 24 yards.

EXCISE STAFF—STRENGTHENING OF

244. Mr. P. Narayana Menon *(Trippunittura)*: Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) have the Government any idea of strengthening the Excise Staff in connection with the new levy of Excise duty on tea, coffee and arecanut;

(*b*) if so, will not preference be given to persons already in service in making the new appointments?

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government)*:

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Yes.

ARTICLE IN THE "JENMABHUMI" DATED 24TH SEPTEMBER 1944

245. Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam)*: (*a*) Whether Government have noted the following article in "ജന്മഭൂമി" dated 24th September 1944 on page 5 and on page 7; "അടക്കാ വ്യാപാരവിഷമങ്ങൾ"

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(*b*) the action taken by Government to redress the grievances pointed out in this article?

Mr. C. J. Mathew *(Joint Secretary to Government):* (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The Government will see that neither the growers nor the merchants are put to unnecessary loss. By giving the Proclamation retrospective effect, none of the traders will be prejudicially affected.

LEGISLATIVE BUSINESS—NON-OFFICIAL BILLS

The Cochin Verumpattamdars Act (Amendment) Bill—Mr. A. Eeachara Menon

Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur-Rural):* I beg leave of the House to move that the Cochin Verumpattamdars Act (Amendment) Bill be read in Council.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandara Ayyar *(Nellayi):* I second it.

Mr. A. Eachara Mneon *(Chittur-Rural):* The Verumpattamdars Act has been considered a revolutionary Act, because it does not keep the balance between the verumpattamdar and the jenmi. In the Act it is said that if a verumpattamdar allows a person to encroach upon the jenmi's land, the jenmi can evict him immediately from that portion of land even if it is less than one cent. Supposing that jenmi succeeded in evicting him from that one cent of land, what is the use of it? Can this jenmi put that piece of land, that small bit of land, to any use? Every reader of that provision will think it ridiculous that such a sentence should be in the Statute.

Another thing that I want to bring to the notice of this House is that in these days of evolution when tarawads are being partitioned a member of the tarawad will come into possession of 2, 3 or 5 acres of land. If he does not get those lands for cultivation he will be put to great inconvenience in that he will be able to get the whole benefit of it and he, further, will have no work. The Kuttikrishna Menon Committee made vast enquiries and came to the conclusion that in such cases the owner of the land should be given at least a portion of land for cultivation. It is there stated that at least 5 acres of land should be given. If that is also adopted by us the jenmies also will be benefitted. Now the verumpattamdars won't allow the jenmies to go near the lands. The purchaser looks to the income which he would get. The tax is not given by the verumpattamdar. He does not allow the jenmies to enter the land and try to make up the loss. So the jenmi is a great looser.

***Mr. A. V. Moothedan** *(Chalakkudi):* A Bill in this form has to be opposed. My submission is that there is something in the Bill. As the Verumpattam Act stands to-day it is applicable to all land-holders. Where he has got 2 acres of land and he cannot evict the tenant he loses. In that case there is some hardship, but the Bill as tabled here is not that. The Bill says that any tenant who has more than five acres of land should surrender to the landlord the excess over 5 acres. As a common practice when a landlord leases his land it will be to several tenants, 5 acres, 2 acres, 4 acres, etc. If this Bill is passed it will be almost equivalent to repealing the Act. If a landlord wants his holding he would take into his head and ask the tenant to surrender the whole thing if it is less than five acres and its half if it more than five acres. Now whatever may be the title of the landlord, that is the point here. Suppose the landlord has got 2 thousand acres and it is distributed among the tenants as 5 acres. The landlord can evict tenants in each case as the holding is only less. As my Hon'ble friend made limitation to that this will apply only to the case of landlords. Because after the passing of the Verumpattamdar's Act many middle class people are aggrieved. A man might have 5 acres of land. Father dies. Mother leases to somebody, sons agree. They do not get the proprietary right over their dues. They have no other work. They have to go to Assam or to Ceylon. These tenants are making profits also. These people are more or less land-lords. They never wanted to give representation to the tenants. In that case an exception should be made. This Bill if at all it should be passed it should be made applicable only to small landlords whose proprietary right in Cochin State is less than five acres. The limit is only 5 acres and if he wants for bonafide cultivation some lands which he has leased he would be given freedom to evict.

Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu):* Sir, I beg to oppose this Bill. In the objects and reasons it is stated "It is ridiculous if the landlord evicts a tenant for all owing a stranger to encroach on a part of the holding however small it be from that part alone" &c. This is not a new aspect that has been brought before the House. This aspect has been discussed

*Speech not corrected by the Hon'ble Member.

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